large scale industrial units which have fallen sick as at the end of the year 1984 and 1985; and

(c) what is the amount of bank credit locked up in each category of industries mentioned above during the periods mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The details regarding the total number of sick industrial units and the amount outstanding against them as at the end of December, 1984 and June, 1985 are given hereunder:—

(Rs. crores)

	No. of Units	Amount outstanding
Period ending December, 1984 :		
Large units	545	2330·12
Medium units	1287	428·58
SSI units	91450	879·69
TOTAL :	93282	3638.39
Period ending June 1985 :		
Large units	597	2655.39
Medium units	1181	195·13
SSI units	97890	954.65
TOTAL	99668	3805·17

The statistics have been obtained from the latest report of the Reserve Bank of India.

Private Postal Agencies

1202. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 42 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st July, 1986 and state:

(a) what is the number of cities, state-wise where private postal and courier agencies are operating;

(b) what are the details regarding their performance popularity and rates charged by them;

(c) whether this operation is legal and in accord with the declared Government Policy; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Such agencies are reported to be operating in 32 cities in the country. The State-wise information is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Not known.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Carrying of letters by the private agencies constitutes a violation of Section 4 of Indian Post Offices Act. Whenever infringement of the above Section comes to notice, necessary action is taken under the provisions of the Indian Post Office Act.

Statement

1. Assam	3
2. Andhra Pradesh	5
3. Bihar	2
4. Delhi	1
5. Gujarat	2
6. Karnataka	1
7. Kerala	3

8. Madhya Pradesh	1
9. Maharashtra	1
10. Orissa	1
11. Rajasthan	3
12. Tamil Nadu	2
13. Tripura	1
14. Uttr Pradesh	4
15. West Bengal	2
TOTAL :	32

Compensation to Bhopal Gas Tragedy Victims

1203. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 219 given in the Rajya Sabha on th 21st July, 1986 and state:

(a) whether a suit against the Union Carbide Corporation for compensation to the victims of the Bhopal Gas disaster has been filed in any Indain Court; and

(b) what is the amount spent so far by the Central Government and Madhya Pradesh Government respectively to help the victims of the Bhopal Gas disaster of 1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The plaint is expected to be finalised shortly and filed during the current month.

(b) The Central Government has so far released Rs. 55 crores as medium term loan to the State Government for relief and rehabilitation of Bhopal gas victims. Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that they have incurred an estimated expenditure of about Rs. 36 croes upto the end of March, 1986 on the relief and rehabilitation measures. This does not fully reflect the administrative and other expenditure incured in the assistance provided by all the Central and State oGvernment agencies involved, particularly in the acute phase, following the disaster, as well as the loans being given by the financial institutions to the victims for economic rehabilitation.

Compensation for Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims

1204. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI J. P. GOYOL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which Justice Keenan of the United States Court who is hearing a number of claim cases of Bhopal Gas Victims against the Union Carbide Corporation had discharged the cases; and

(b) whether any reasonable amount of compensation has been determined on which Govrnment are prepared to have a settlement with the Union Carbide Corporation and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The case has been dismissed by Justice Keenan on the ground of forum non convenience.

(b) Government is prepared to settle only for an amount which will provide full and fair compensation to all the claimants.

Licences for new industries in U.P. and Orissa

1205. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any new licences for the establishment of new industries in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa during 1986; and